

DoD Bone Health and Military Medical Readiness (BHMMR) Research Program  
DAMD17-BAA-BHMMR

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command is soliciting proposals for scientific studies that may lead to interventions to reduce stress fractures during military recruit training. Previous results from this Program indicate that training regimen, bone geometry, and prior fitness level play a key role in stress fracture development. This solicitation seeks to specifically expand investigations in two topic areas: 1) relationship between exercise training regimen (timing, type and volume of training) and onset of microdamage in bone, with a special focus on plyometric exercise; 2) impact of load carriage and/or muscle fatigue on bone strain during prolonged standing and marching activities. A total of \$1M for all awards is available, with awards expected to average \$200K, including direct and indirect costs. Previous dedicated funding for this effort has supported nearly 40 projects of high relevance to the military and civilian communities, focused on biomechanical influences on bone and stress fracture ([www.momrp.org/70.htm](http://www.momrp.org/70.htm)). Submissions may also include collaborations with military researchers, with initial points of contact at the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (Lieutenant Colonel Rachel Evans, MPT, PhD, [rachel.evans@na.amedd.army.mil](mailto:rachel.evans@na.amedd.army.mil)) and the Naval Health Research Center (Daniel Trone, M.A., [trone@nhrc.navy.mil](mailto:trone@nhrc.navy.mil)).

Proposals that fall within the specified topic areas will be peer-reviewed for scientific merit by an external peer review panel. Merit is distinguished by a well-described plan and rationale, important and testable hypotheses, and evidence for the likelihood of successful completion and publication of results. Proposals must provide a clear justification and military relevance but are not required to involve military volunteer subjects. Letters of intent containing a proposed title, brief description of project scope (less than 150 words), and investigator and institution identification are requested by 2 PM Eastern Time, 31 March 2006. Full proposals are due no later than 2 PM Eastern Time, 1 May 2006 to be eligible for consideration. The instructions for submission of a full proposal can be found in the USAMRMC BAA 05-1 at [www.usamraa.army.mil/pages/baa\\_paa/baaproposal.htm](http://www.usamraa.army.mil/pages/baa_paa/baaproposal.htm). Send letters of intent and full proposals to: U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity, ATTN: BHMMR 06, 820 Chandler Street, Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5014. For carrier delivery, please use POC: Cheryl Miles, 301-619-7148.